



**Martin O'Malley, Governor   Anthony Brown, Lieutenant Governor  
Israel C. Patoka, Executive Director**

**Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism  
Frank Johnson, Chair**

*As a supporting unit of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism creates, promotes and supports volunteer service efforts that engage all Marylanders to strengthen our communities.*

**April 20, 2009**

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## **Governor O'Malley proclaims "Volunteer Week in MD"** *Theme for the week is "All Communities for Maryland"*

Governor Martin O'Malley proclaimed April 19-25, 2009, "Volunteer Week in Maryland." The state of Maryland has a rich tradition of volunteer service dating back to 1633 when the state's first standing militia was established by Maryland Charter. Volunteer Week in Maryland runs concurrently with National Volunteer Week, when Americans are encouraged to reach out and help others. A total of 30 proclamations will be presented to community-based volunteer programs on behalf of the governor and thousands of Governor's Certificates of Recognition for Volunteer Service are being distributed across Maryland during April, National Volunteer Month.

The Governor's Office provided over \$4,000 in funding for nine Volunteer Week activities around the state. The funding is administered by the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism. At the 26th annual Governor's Volunteer Services Awards ceremony, held April 20 at the Maryland hall for the Creative Arts, 42 awards were presented to volunteers from around the state who donated their time and energy to help others in need, clean up streams and waterways, help out in schools, mentor youth and address needs in their communities. The group of award winners demonstrated Maryland's rich diversity and continued commitment to civic engagement, supporting the 2009 National Volunteer Week theme, "Celebrating People in Action."

According to the most recent data released by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), an average of 1.2 million Marylanders dedicated 198.6 million hours of volunteer service during calendar year 2007, with an economic value of \$3.9 billion of service hours to the state. This figure is based on the annual estimation of the dollar value of a volunteer hour by the group Independent Sector, which currently stands at \$19.51. Maryland's volunteer rate of 28.5 percent ranks 28<sup>th</sup> with in the 50 states and Washington D.C.

Maryland's volunteer hours per resident ranks 10<sup>th</sup> in the nation at 45.9 hours. CNCS data indicates nearly 61 million Americans volunteered in their communities in 2007, giving over 8.1 billion hours of service worth \$158 billion to America's communities.

**To learn more or find out about local volunteer opportunities, please call 1-800-VOLUNTEER or contact your local volunteer center at:**

**[www.marylandvolunteercenters.org](http://www.marylandvolunteercenters.org)**

### **Volunteer Week in Maryland activities**

#### **Business Volunteers Unlimited Maryland**

Contact Person: Rachel Shuster/Kate Scherr

Phone: 410-366-6030 x 217 or 410-366-0910 Email: [rshuster@bvumaryland.org](mailto:rshuster@bvumaryland.org)

Name of Event: Do Something!

Event Location and Address:

Frederick Douglass Maritime Museum/ 1417 Thames St., Baltimore, MD 21231

Date/ Time of Event: April 21, 2009 from 5:30pm-7:30pm

Proposed Activities: The Do Something event is an environmentally focused event that engages over 100 attendees with a key-note speaker and also provides "speed volunteering". "Speed Volunteering" consists of 5-6 nonprofit organizations that get the opportunity to reach out to the group to inspire volunteerism in the community. This event connects volunteers to do future volunteer work with these agencies that they are newly introduced to.

#### **Baltimore County Volunteers**

Contact Person: Ethel Rasmussen

Phone: 410-887-2379

Email: [erasmussen@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:erasmussen@baltimorecountymd.gov)

Name of Event: I Volunteer in Baltimore County, Maryland Outreach

Date/ Time of Event: Volunteer Week

Proposed Activities: In recognition of Volunteers' Week, we would like to send a letter of appreciation from the County Executive to approximately 1,200 volunteers who serve within our county that would include a gift of a magnifying bookmark. Baltimore County Volunteers will pay for staff time, envelopes, letterhead and postage for this project.

#### **Volunteer Frederick, Inc.**

Contact Person: Stacey White

Phone: 301-663-5214 ext. 2#

Email: [StaceyW@volunteerfrederick.org](mailto:StaceyW@volunteerfrederick.org) Name of Event: Kick-Off Breakfast and The BIG Sweep

Event Location and Address:

Martin's at Walkersville (behind Walkersville Fire Hall), 79 Frederick Rd. Walkersville, MD 21793

Date/ Time of Event: April 25, 2009 from 7-9am

Proposed Activities: The BIG Sweep is a county-wide beautification service project that works like a collaborative walk-a-thon to raise funds for any participating nonprofit community organization. Approximately 1,200 volunteers representing 70 community organizations will mobilize to clean up county roads, parks, and waterways after soliciting donations on behalf of their organization for their clean-up efforts. In the last seven years, BIG Sweep volunteers have collected 90 tons of trash and 2,500 tires while raising over \$400,000 for dozens of area nonprofit organizations. The Kick-Off Breakfast is a welcoming event for the BIG Sweep teams.

We will recognize sponsors, invite special guests to read our National Volunteer Week Proclamations and announce the top three BIG Sweep fundraising teams and the team with the most volunteers.

**Baltimore International Academy**

Contact Person: Elena Lokounia

Phone: 410-426-3650

Email: [elokounia@bcps.k12.md.us](mailto:elokounia@bcps.k12.md.us)

Name of Event: Project BIA! On our way to a Greener & Cleaner Learning Environment

Event Location and Address: 3515 Taylor Ave Baltimore, MD 21236

Date/ Time of Event: April, 2009

Proposed Activities: The Baltimore International Academy is an elementary school in Baltimore offering the only language immersion program in the city for k-6. We are a public charter school serving over 80% of the under-served population in the city of Baltimore. We are passionate about exposing our students to diversity and project based learning and in our commitment to promoting civic participation, we would like to engage our students in hands on activities that allow them to give back to their school community by making it a greener, cleaner place to learn. The students will volunteer up to 1hr by grade along side of their teachers and families in our clean-up. Our project clean up will include cleaning the library and greenhouse preparing it to open for contributions and usage. The activities will include trash removal, sanitizing, painting, planting, cleaning windows & floors, fixing shelves. Each participant will be asked to donate \$1 in support of the library and greenhouse. The children will receive certificates for their participation and each class will write about their experience. This will become an annual event at our school. If we cannot get a food sponsor, we will ask families to donate snacks.

**Volunteer Center for Anne Arundel County**

Contact Person: Fay Mauro

Phone: 410-897-9207

Email: [fay@vounteerannearundel.org](mailto:fay@vounteerannearundel.org)

Name of Event: Community Connections

Event Location and Address: Village of Waugh Chapel Community Room, Rt. 3 So at Waught Chapel Rd. Gambrills, MD

Date/ Time: Saturday, April 25, 2009, 1p-4p

Proposed Activities: The Volunteer Center is participating in the County Executive's "Community Connections Day". We will be providing information about volunteering in Anne Arundel's County, especially opportunities for disadvantaged youth in our new summer youth leadership program. We will also have "Kids Kare" hands-on projects where children can make Mothers Day cards that will be given to isolated seniors by Meals on Wheels.

**Volunteer Center: A STAR! In Western Maryland**

Contact Person: Sandy Sutton/Lisa Clark

Phone: 301-697-3359

Email: [lclark101307@aol.com](mailto:lclark101307@aol.com) Name of Event: Mentor US!!!

Event Location and Address: 1025 Memorial Dr. Mt. Lake Park, MD 21550

Date/ Time of Event: April 17 to 24, 2009

Proposed Activities: CAP has donated a tractor trailer of books to our projects. This truck will be unloaded on April 17th and books will be available to the A STAR! partners first then available to the community FREE for the next week.

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**Volunteer Center: Prince George's Volunteer Center, Inc**

Contact Person: Teresa Gardner-Williams

Phone: (301) 699-2803

Email: [tgardnerwilliams@princegeorgesvolunteer.org](mailto:tgardnerwilliams@princegeorgesvolunteer.org)

Name of Event: 2009 Affair of the Heart Gala & Silent Auction

Event Location and Address:

UMUC Inn & Conference Center, 3501 University Blvd. East, Adelphi, MD 20783

Date/ Time of Event: April 17, 2009, 7:00 pm

Proposed Activities: Presentation of the 2009 Prince George's Volunteer of the Year Award and silent auction fundraiser before awards presentation

**Volunteer Center of Allegany County**

Contact Person: Marilyn McKenzie

Phone: (301) 724-1559

Email: [mmckenzie@allconet.org](mailto:mmckenzie@allconet.org)

Name of Event: Celebrating Volunteers

Event Location and Address:

Volunteer Center 71 Baltimore St., Cumberland, MD

Date/ Time of Event: All Week (April 19-25)

Proposed Activities: Six names will be drawn each day during Volunteer Week from a pool of over 575 volunteers to win a prize and volunteer certificate of appreciation.

**Chesapeake Volunteer Center**

Contact Person: Cathy Thompson

Phone: (410) 827-5440

Email: [cthompson@chesapeake.edu](mailto:cthompson@chesapeake.edu)

Name of the event: Volunteer Recognition and GED graduation

Event Location and Address: TBA

Date/Time of Event: April 23, 2009

Proposed Activities: Volunteers will be recognized for their service to the GED program operating out of the volunteer center.

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